Samuel Gonzales Participant, TRUE Dads

Samuel Gonzales—a TRUE Dads program participant—is a safety coordinator by trade and husband to Kayla and father to her daughter Kenzie by choice.

Samuel and Kayla joined TRUE Dads in 2018 hoping to strengthen their relationship as a couple and deepen Samuel's bond with Kayla's daughter by a previous relationship. During their time in TRUE Dads, they accomplished those goals and more, ultimately making the decision to marry and have a child together. Samuel and Kayla continue to grow as individuals, a couple and a family.

Having dealt with periods of unemployment, Samuel welcomed the training and certification opportunities available to him through TRUE Dads. He has worked hard to grow his professional credentials, including OSHA 510, OSHA 30, CPR training and certified manager training through the National Association of Safety Professionals.

An Oklahoma City native, Samuel has experience in roofing, construction and safety coordination. Currently, Samuel is preparing to take a new job as a Safety Coordinator, a job that offers additional opportunities for advancement.

In his testimony, Samuel will share his firsthand experience of how federally funded responsible fatherhood programs like TRUE Dads empower healthier relationships, stronger parenting skills and greater opportunities for individuals to provide for their families.